

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and remarks submitted herein. Claims 1 and 27 have been amended, and claims 2, 20 and 28 have been canceled without prejudice to continued prosecution.

Claims 1, 5-10, 27 and 29-31 currently are pending, and claims 19, 21 and 22 currently are withdrawn. Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested.

Objections

Claims 1, 2 and 27 stand objected to because the claims recite the phrase “represented by” SEQ ID NO:14. According to the Examiner, “represented by” is not a conventional transitional term.

Without acquiescing to the Examiner's objection, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 27 to replace “represented by” with “as shown in” SEQ ID NO:14. Applicants note that claim 2 has been canceled herein without prejudice to continued prosecution. In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

The 35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 5-10 and 27-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as the Examiner asserted that those claims fail to comply with the written description requirement and lack enablement. According to the Examiner, the specification does not provide written description support for “biologically active fragments” and such “biologically active fragments” are not enabled.

Without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 27 to remove the reference to “biologically active fragments.” In view of the amendments herein, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

The 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 1, 5-10 and 27-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Watt et al. (1994, *Blood*, 84:200-10); and claims 1, 5-7, 27, 28 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Barnett et al. (1993, *Mol. Cell. Biol.*, 13:1273-1282).

Without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 27 to specifically refer to SEQ ID NO:14. In view of the amendments herein, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Request for Rejoinder

Applicants submit that the amendments herein result in a common technical feature between the pending claims and the withdrawn, non-elected claims 19, 21 and 22. For example, independent claim 19 corresponds essentially to a method of using the isolated peptide of claim 1. Therefore, Applicants request that claims 19, 21 and 22 be rejoined with the elected claims under PCT Rule 13 and MPEP §821.04.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1, 5-10, 19, 21, 22, 27 and 29-31. Please apply the fee for the attached Petition for Extension of Time and any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

/October 15, 2008/

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Date: _____

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